

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

M.A. & U.D. Department – Sanitation - Stray Dog Management for control of Stray Dog Menace and Dog Bite in Urban Local Bodies of Andhra Pradesh - Issuance of Guidelines - Orders – Issued.

MUNICIPAL ADMN & URBAN DEVELOPMENT (W2) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.203,

Dated: 06/06/2011

Read:

From the Commissioner & Director of Municipal Administration,
Hyderabad, Letter Roc.No.8938/2009-H1, Dated: 28.05.2011.

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ORDER:

In the reference read above, the Commissioner & Director of Municipal Administration, has informed that there are no guidelines/instructions on Dog menace/anti rabies operations are formulated earlier and requested the Government to issue the guidelines on Stray Dog Management for control of Stray Dog Menace and Dog Bite in ULBs of Andhra Pradesh.

2. Accordingly, Government, after careful examination of the matter and keeping in view of the seriousness of the issue of stray dog menace, issue the following guidelines on stray dog management for control of stray dog menace and dog bite in ULBs of Andhra Pradesh:

I. Introduction-Problem statement:

1.1. Municipal Act and Municipal Corporation Acts provide that Municipal Authorities are required to take initiatives and measures for healthy Cities / Towns with improved Sanitation, Water Supply, Street Lighting, Roads & Drains, Sewage, parks and play grounds etc., for providing better basic civic amenities, etc.

1.2. In the recent past, there are incidents of dog bites and dog menace is being faced by urban population in the Towns and Cities. There has been lot of highlighting of this issue in print and electronic media. This is undoubtedly due to growing problem of conflict between human and dog population in towns and cities throughout Andhra Pradesh and also in India. Further, presence of dog population is directly linked to availability of food in the localities i.e., Food Waste and Garbage etc.

1.3. The system of indiscriminate destruction of stray dogs is neither successful nor desirable to control their population and to minimize the incidence of rabies. The municipal bodies have been killing stray dogs under the pretext of controlling rabies by Health Department. Though the Animal Welfare Board of India has been trying to control the dog population by encouraging the voluntary organizations to conduct sterilization programmes but the same have not had much impact, in view of non-extensive coverage.

1.4. Hence, the Municipalities and Municipal Corporations shall have to address urgently the problems of solid waste and slaughterhouse waste management which have a direct bearing on the presence of dog

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population and its growth. The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) wishes to promote the humane and effective population control of street / stray dogs through the use of Animal Birth Control (ABC) programmes in all municipal areas, including small towns and rural areas. Rabies and dog bites present a significant cause of human suffering and financial loss to the country.

1.5. Further, It is reiterated that the WHO's latest report on rabies, i.e. the 'WHO EXPERT CONSULTATION ON RABIES', published in the year 2005 under the WHO Technical Report Series, specifically notes that,

Dogs breed so prolifically that even the highest recorded removal rate - removing 15% - does not significantly impact their population, or reduce the spread of rabies ; and

Sterilization programmes systematically followed in several countries have shown encouraging results, with dog populations, and the number of human rabies cases, reducing.

That is to say, dislocating dogs, and dumping them at the outskirts of the city, only makes it easier for the ones that remain to survive. On account of the food sources thereby made available to a smaller number, the dogs that remain proliferate more successfully, with larger litter sizes. Further, the vacuum or 'dog free' territories created by dislocation are rapidly filled up by new dogs.

1.6. The Dogs, usually, resort to bite on the following occasions:

- a) When they get excited/startled, by sudden movements and loud noises, and under these circumstances, they may chase and bite.
- b) When they are threatened / or Cornered, they may bite in self-defence to protect themselves
- c) To protect the pups, the mother may bark, chase and /or bite
- d) Rabid Dog may bite due to its behavior change
- e) Stress due to conflict with new entrants in the area etc.

In view of these, the following guidelines are issued for taking required actions and activities for effectively managing of stray dog menace in the towns and cities:

II. Legal Provisions:

II.1. Sec 254 & 255 of APMA Act 1965, provides the management of stray dog and its menace in the Nagarpanchayaths and Municipalities.

II.2. Sec 248, 249, 250 & 251 of MCH Act 1955, deals with dog management in the Municipal Corporations.

II.3. On stray dog management, the WHO and the WSPA (World Society for Protection of Animals), after considerable research collaborated in the publication of the "guidelines for dog population management" in the year 1990. These guidelines advocated a systematic sterilisation programme in

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place of mass killing, for reducing of dog population. The law in India i.e. the Animal Birth Control (Dog) Rules, 2001 reflect this progression of thoughts.

II.4. The Animal Birth Control (Dog) Rules, 2001, enacted under the prevention of cruelty of animals Act 1960, Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoEF), Government of India, and The Animal Birth Control (Dog) Amendment Rules, 2009, MoEF, Government of India, also deal with management of stray dogs in the country .

Copies of the rules of 2001 & 2009 are placed in our website with address www.cdma.gov.in in Solid Waste Management link for access and information.

II.5. It is also pertinent to mention that Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has, vide order passed on the 23rd January, 2009, in a Special Leave Petition titled "Animal Welfare Board of India versus People for Elimination of Stray Troubles and Others", numbered as S.L.P. (Civil) No. 691 of 2009, stayed the operation of a Bombay High Court order, which had permitted the killing of "nuisance" dogs by the Municipal Commissioner under the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act.

II.6. It is also pertinent to know that The Animal Birth Control (Dog) Rules, 2001 provides for addressing the problem of Furious or dumb rabid dogs, incurably ill and mortally wounded dogs under Rule-9 and Rule-10. The Rules are reproduced here:

"Rule. 9. Euthanasia of Street Dogs: Incurably ill and mortally wounded dogs as diagnosed by a qualified veterinarian appointed by the committee shall be euthanised during specified hours in a humane manner by administering Sodium Pentathol for adult dogs and Thiopental Intraperitoneal for puppies by a qualified veterinarian or euthanised in any other humane manner approved by Animal Welfare Board of India. No dog shall be euthanised in the presence of another dog. The person responsible for euthanizing shall make sure that the animal is dead, before disposal.

Rule. 10. Furious or dumb rabid dogs :

- (1) On the receipt of complaints from the public to the Dog Control Cell of the Local Authority or on its own, the dog squad of the Local Authority would catch such dogs, suspected to be rabid.
- (2) The caught dog would then be taken to the pound where it would be isolated in an isolation ward.
- (3) The suspected rabid dog would then be subjected to inspection by a panel of two persons i.e.
 - (i) a veterinary surgeon appointed by the Local Authority and
 - (ii) a representative from an Animal Welfare Organisation
- (4) If the dog is found to have a high probability of having rabies it would be isolated till it dies a natural death. Death normally occurs within 10 days of contracting rabies. Premature killings of suspected rabid dogs therefore prevents the true incidence of rabies from being known and appropriate action being taken.

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- (5) If the dog is found not to have rabies but some other disease it would be handed over to the AWOs who will take the necessary action to cure and rehabilitate the dog."

III. Management of Stray Dogs and Control of Dog Bite in ULBs:

III.1. Classification of dogs and their Sterilization.

(a) All dogs shall be classified in one of the following Three Categories

(i) Pet dogs (ii) Street dogs (iii) Breeders

- (i) Pet dogs are dogs/ bitches kept within owners premises with a responsible caretaker.
 - (ii) Street dogs are those dogs/ bitches homeless on the street or supported by communities.
 - (iii) Breeding dogs are those dogs/ bitches belonging to breeders for the specific purpose of breeding, which are not sterilized within one year of age.
- (b) The Owners of pet dogs shall be responsible for the controlled breeding, Immunization sterilization and licensing in accordance with the bye laws and any other law for the time being in force within the specified local area falling in the jurisdiction of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation/concerned Municipality.
- (c) The street dogs shall be sterilized and immunized by methods currently approved by Animal Welfare Board of India by ensuring participation of Animal Welfare Organization, recognized by Animal Welfare Board of India, by Veterinarians and Veterinary Officers certified by the monitoring committee of the ULB Concerned. The ULB Concerned may also seek the cooperation of Animal Husbandry Department to render assistance by deputing at least one or two Veterinary Assistant Surgeons for a reasonable period as and when their services are needed by the ULBs concerned.

III.2. Formation of Monitoring Committee: A Monitoring Committee consisting of the following shall be constituted by ULB:

- (a) Commissioner/Municipal Commissioner who shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Committee.
- (b) One Veterinary Officer from the District (Joint Director)/Asst. Director / Veterinary Officer of Mandal/ Municipality concerned.
- (c) A representative from Public Health Department (Medical & Health).
- (d) A Veterinary Doctor, representative from Non Government Organization(s) in ULB/ District.
- (e) At least two representatives from the Animal Welfare Organization Operating within the said local authority or District/ (if not available from CBOs of TLFs/SLFs)
- (f) A Veterinary Assistant Surgeon nominated by Animal Husbandry Department.(one district officer too nominate)

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III.3. General functions of the Monitoring Committee.

The Committee may meet at least once in a month as and when called by the Commissioner, to review and issue instructions on:

- (a) Catching, transportation, sheltering, sterilisation, vaccination, treatment of the street dogs and release of sterlised, vaccinated or treated dogs.
- (b) Create public awareness solicit cooperation and funding.
- (c) Provide guidelines to pet dogs owners and commercial breeders.

- (d) To take such steps for monitoring the dog bite cases, ascertain the reasons of dog bite in areas where it took place falling in the jurisdiction of ULB concerned and whether it was from a stray or pet dog.
- (e) Authorize Veterinary Doctor to decide on case-to-case basis the need to put to sleep, the critically ill or fatally injured or Rabid dogs in a painless method by using Sodium Pentothal. But any other method is strictly prohibited. In such cases the Veterinary Officer and the Veterinarian of Non-Government Organization should be consulted. This needs to be done as a last remedy and not by haste.
- (f) Setting up of Animal Birth Control program centers in the municipality/Municipal Corporation with the help of the Veterinarians from Non Government Organisations/ the Animal Husbandry Department.
- (g) To recruit and appoint sterilization and immunization teams.
- (h) To appoint monitoring team to report the progress.
 - (i) To issue timely certification and de-recognition to teams performing stray animal control.
- (j) Setting up of Veterinary Public Health laboratory for screening of vaccinated dog blood samples for health and titers against ARV to check for effectiveness of vaccination programs.

III.4. Obligation of the Local Authority i.e., Municipality/ Municipal Corporation:

- (1) The local authorities/ULB here means Municipal Corporation and Municipalities falling in its jurisdiction. The Municipal Corporation or Municipality shall provide.
 - (a) Establishment of a sufficient number, i.e., at least one per zone in case of Million Plus Cities and one in other ULBs, of Veterinary Hospitals, dog pounds for impounded dogs, camp sites for sterilization and immunization which may be managed by Animal Welfare Organisation / Non Government Organisation recognized by the Animal Welfare Board of India having qualified Veterinarians to conduct the project.
 - (b) Requisite number of dog vans with ramps for the capture and transportation of street dogs, (Minimum one for ULBs of Class-I and above towns)
 - (c) One driver and two to three dog catchers to be provided for each dog van
 - (d) One Ambulance cum Clinical Van to serve as mobile centre for sterilization and immunization. (as per need) by District Head Quarter Municipality/Corporation.

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- (e) Incinerators to be installed by Municipal Corporation/ Municipality for disposal of carcasses wherever required.
- (f) Periodic repair of shelter or pound.
- (2) To control street dog population, it shall be incumbent on Municipal Corporation / Municipality to sterilize and immunize street dog population with the participation of Animal Welfare Organization/ Non Government Organization and private individuals. As far as possible and

needed help and assistance should be taken from Animal Husbandry Department.

III.5. Capturing / Sterilization / immunization / release.

- (1) Capturing of dogs within the limits of Municipal Corporation/ Municipality concerned shall be based on strategic and planned, methods in all localities.
- (2) Sterilization and immunization should be conducted through Catching Neutering Vaccine Releasing or Animal Birth Control / Anti Rabies or other approved techniques in all localities in camps.
- (3) The dog capturing squad shall consist of
 - (i) The driver of the dog van.
 - (ii) Two or more trained employees of Municipality / Municipal Corporation concerned
 - (iii) One representative of Non Government Organization or Animal Welfare Organization. (in case of absence, TLF/SLF/RWA) Veterinarian.
 - (iv) The Veterinary Officer.
 - (v) Over all supervision by the Veterinary Officer of Municipal Corporation or Municipality concerned.
- (4) The squad shall visit planned areas to capture the dogs. All the dogs caught will be tagged (V notch on right ear) for identification purpose and released in the same area after sterilization and vaccination. Such record of dog capture shall be maintained in a Register with due mention of area locality, date and time of capture, names of persons in the dog squad on that particular day and details about dogs captured such as number of males, female dogs, number of puppies etc.,
- (5) The dogs shall be captured by using humane methods such as net loop and stick method under supervision or any method approved by Animal Welfare Board of India.
- (6) Where the dogs are being captured in any locality the dog squad from Municipal Corporation/ Municipality or Non Government organization accompanying the dog squad will make announcement on a public address that dogs captured from the area for the purpose of sterilization and immunization will be released in the same area for community safety.

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- (7) The captured dogs shall be brought to the Veterinary Hospital, camp site / dog pounds managed by Municipal Corporation/ Municipality or by any Animal Welfare Organization recognized by the Animal Welfare Board of India, which shall be examined by the Veterinarian and healthy & sick dogs shall be segregated. Sick dogs to be rendered proper treatment in the hospitals run by Animal Husbandry Department in the area. Only after they are treated will they be sterilized & vaccinated under the supervision of Veterinarian of the hospital. After necessary follow up the dogs shall be released in the same area or locality from where they were caught making entries of such release.
- (8) At a time one lot of dogs shall be brought for sterilization, immunization to Veterinary Hospital, camp site or dog pound and these dogs shall be

from one locality. Two lots from different areas or localities shall not be mixed at the same dog pound or camp.

- (9) The dog kennel must have sufficient space for proper housing and movement of dogs with proper ventilation and natural lighting.
- (10) Female dogs found to be pregnant shall not undergo abortion and sterilization and should be released till they have litter.
- (11) All healthy animals above 3 months of age and 5kgs of weight must be sterilized unless licensed to breed.
- (12) Revaccination of stray dogs using Vaccine / oral vaccine through baits in the various localities of municipalities/ Municipal Corporation.

III.6.) Identification and Recording:

Sterilized dogs shall be vaccinated before release and the ears of these dogs should either be clipped and / or notched 'v' for being identified as sterilized or immunized dogs. In addition the dogs may be given token or nylon collars for identification and details & records of such dogs shall be maintained.

III.7.) Dog bite complaint Cell

- (a) Specific complaints about dog bites to Dog Complaint Cell / Veterinary Officer/ Veterinary Officer/ Veterinary Compounder of Municipal Corporation/ Municipality concerned who will receive & register complaints about dog aggression, dog bites and information about Rabid dogs.
- (b) On receipt of complaints the details such as name of the complainant, his complete address, date and time of complaint, nature of complaint shall be recorded in a register to be maintained in Sanitation/SWM/Veterinary Section of Municipal Corporation/ Municipality concerned. It shall contain details of Action taken on each case.
- (c) On receipt of specific complaint or for capturing dogs in normal course the squad shall visit concerned area, capture the dogs identified by the complainant. In case of general capturing all the dogs caught will be tagged for identification purpose and to see all the dogs are released in the same area after sterilization and vaccination. Such record of dog capture shall be maintained in a Register with due mention of area / locality, date and time of capture, names of persons in the dog squad on that particular day and details about dogs Captured such a number of males, female dogs, No. of puppies etc.,

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- (d) The dogs shall be captured by using humane methods which are prescribed for this purpose and as mentioned earlier.
- (e) Sick dogs: The captured sick dogs shall be brought to the dog pounds managed by Municipal Corporation/ Municipality or by any Animal Welfare Organization, which shall be examined by the Veterinarian and examined for suspected Rabies and other diseases. Dogs suffering with other diseases will be sent to animal shelters for treatment and Animal Birth Control / Anti Rabies.

III.8.) Suspected rabid dogs:

- (a) The suspected rabid dog would then be taken to the pound where it would be isolated in a Rabies isolation ward.

- (b) The suspected dogs would then be subjected to inspection by two persons.
- (i) A Veterinary Officer from dog Squad.
 - (ii) Registered Veterinarian of Any Non Government Organization.
 - (iii) If the dog is found to have a high probability of having Rabies it would be isolated till it dies a natural death. Death normally occurs within (10) days of contracting Rabies.
 - (iv) If the dog is found not to have Rabies but some other disease it would be handed over to Non Government Organization to rehabilitate the dogs.
 - (v) Dead dogs will be examined to confirm Rabies and if so the proper mapping should be followed. Mapping is the complete case history and findings of the Rabies Cell regarding the particular animal.
 - (vi) On confirmation of the Rabies Cell formatted information form will be circulated to all concerned authorities.

III.9.) Euthanasia of street dogs:

Incurably ill, ferocious and mortally wounded dogs as diagnosed by a qualified Veterinarian recommended by the Committee shall be authorized during specified hours in a humane manner by administering Sodium Pentathol for adult dogs and Thiopental Intraperitoneal for puppies by a qualified Veterinarian. But no dog shall be euthanized in the presence of another dog.

III.10.) Disposal of Carcasses:

The Carcasses of such euthanized dogs shall be disposed off in an incinerator to be arranged by Municipal Corporation/Municipality.

III.11.) Guidelines for Dog owners:

- (1) Pet dogs:- Compulsory registration of all pet dogs. A registration fee of Rs.50/- per dog to be charged annually per dog for non-breeder dogs.
- (2) Breeding dogs:- A breeder must be registered with Municipal Corporation/ Municipality by paying the prescribed Tax of Rs.1000/- per annum per dog after the dog attains the age of (6) months.

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- (a) Breeder must maintain full record of number of pups born/ died from individual bitches.
- (b) Breeder must maintain record of the person buying the pups.
- (c) Vaccination and health records of individual animals.

III.12.) Detailed procedures of the above are available in “STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR STREET DOG BIRTH CONTROL PROGRAMMES” published in May, 2009 by Animal Welfare Board of India, containing the following:

Detailed Guidelines on:

- 1. Survey of the stray dog population in the area
- 2. Humane catching of stray dogs
- 3. Transportation of stray dogs
- 4. Basic infrastructure required for ABC Programs

5. Key elements of A Successful ABC Programme: Need for Proper Identification, Record Keeping & Monitoring Systems
6. Preoperative considerations
7. Surgery for ABC Programs: Anesthetic & Surgical Protocols
8. Post-operative care, Anti-rabies Vaccinations & Safe Release of dogs
9. Euthanasia, Post-mortem Exams and Verification of ABC Surgeries

This can be accessed from our website www.cdma.gov.in under Municipal Solid Waste Management Link.

IV. Funding:

Animal Welfare Board of India will be requested to fund ABC Project and Immunization Project on 50% cost sharing basis to Municipalities and Municipal Corporations with 50% of cost to be met by ULB Concerned and 50% to be met by AWBI. The State Government with an acceptance of this will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with AWBI on behalf of all Municipal Corporations and Municipalities. The Animal Welfare Board of India may designate a recognized NGO for this purpose.

Items for which assistance will be given.

V. Stray Dogs:

Under the scheme of Animal Welfare Board of India, the identified NGOs involved for taking up this Programme, after due survey with recommendation of ULB, can apply and access funds for sterilization and immunization of stray dogs.

- (i) Dog- catching and admission to ABC center and relocation to areas from where captured per stray dog basis.
- (ii) Pre-operation care including medicines and feeding, surgery and post operative care including medicines and feeding per stray dog basis.
- (iii) The NGOs undertaking the entire project covering all the components will be eligible for financial assistance.

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VI. Monitoring and Evaluation:

VI.1. State Level Monitoring Committee: A State Level Monitoring Committee shall be constituted by the Government to monitor the implementation of guidelines and other aspects.

VI.2. The ULBs shall compile the information relating to subject and submit periodically to RDMAs and CDMA as follows:

1. Format for Monitoring Dog Menace Complaints:

To be updated weekly and submitted to the C&DMA.

Name of the ULB:

S. No	Ward No	Locality	Complaint Date and ID	Nature of Complaint (bite/aggression /rabid)	No of Victims	Loss incurred to the Victim(s)	No of Dogs Involved	Action Taken Stage of Action
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i
1								
2								

2. Format for Programme progress:

To be updated weekly and submitted to the Commissioner & Director of Municipal Administration.

Name of the ULB:

No. of Dogs Captured during the week	No. of Steri-lised	No. of vaccinated	No. of Released	No. of Dogs put to sleep	No handed over to NGO for Treatment	No. of Pending complaints which action not initiated	No. of Complaints for which Action under Progress

3. Format for Monitoring No of Dogs put to Sleep

To be updated weekly and submitted to the C&DMA:

No of Dogs Put to Sleep During the week	Dogs put to sleep due to Rabid & Complaint ID	Dogs put to sleep due to Mortal injury/illness & Complaint ID

VII-I. Financing:- The Municipal Corporation/Municipality shall bear the entire expenses to be incurred in implementing these guidelines. The funds under priority may be allocated for it. If any Corporation/Municipality has no funds whatsoever at its disposal, the same may request C&DMA to make funds available for it.

VII-II. Training:- The ULBs shall ensure that the staff involved in catching of dogs and related activities are properly trained, since it requires special skill set. The training can be conducted by taking assistance from any NGO recognised by AWBI for this purpose. The funds if any,

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required may be incurred on same lines as mentioned under financing above duly sharing as prescribed by AWBI in case of MoUs/assistance agreed to in this regard.

3. The Commissioner & Director of Municipal Administration, shall take necessary further action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

**Dr.VIJAY KUMAR
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To
The Commissioner & Director of Municipal Administration,
Hyderabad.

Copy to:

All the ULBs in the State(Nagar Panchayats / Municipalities / Corporations), **through** the Commissioner & Director of Municipal Administration, Hyderabad.

The Animal Husbandry Department.

The Panchayat Raj & Rural Development Department.

The Health, Medical & Family Welfare Department.

The Director of Animal Husbandry Department,
Shanthinagar, Hyderabad.

The Director of Medical & Health, Kothi, Hyderabad.

The Director of Institute of Preventive Medicine,
Narayanaguda, Hyderabad.

The Commissioner, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Hyderabad.

The P.S. to Secy. to C.M.

The P.S. to Minister (MA).

The P.S. to Minister (M&H).

The P.S. to Minister (PR&RD).

The P.S. to Minister (A&H).

The P.S. to Prl.Secy (UD).

The P.S. to Secy. (MA).

SF/SC

//FORWARDED BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER